

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS

1. A method for communicating between a web browser located on a first side of a firewall and a network element located on a second side of the firewall, comprising the steps of:

providing the web browser with an applet to drive a user request, said applet provided by a web server included on the first side of the firewall;

sending said user request to a read/write server provided on the second side of the firewall;

creating a hypertext transfer protocol-simple object access protocol (HTTP-SOAP) of said user request;

transmitting said HTTP-SOAP to network management application (NMA) server production on the second side of the firewall;

building an appropriate nodal model of said user request in said NMA;

sending SOAP encoded requests from said NMA to a network element agent (NEA) provided on the second side of the firewall;

parsing said SOAP encoded requests received by said NMA in said NEA which encompasses data needed to complete a single nodal transaction;

encoding in said NEA SOAP packets;

transmitting said SOAP packets to a translator box associated with the network element, said translator box located on the second side of the firewall;

translating said SOAP packet into the appropriate native console command for the network element; and

transmitting said native console command to the network element located on the second side of the firewall.